



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 15 March 2006

Current
Nationwide
Threat Level is

ELEVATED
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF
TERRORIST ATTACKS

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<http://www.dhs.gov/>

Daily Highlights

- Internal Revenue Service and Department of Treasury officials have noticed an increase this winter in the frequency and sophistication of phishing schemes that use the tax agency's logo to lure victims into revealing personal financial information. (See item [8](#))
- The Associated Press reports a Nevada man made threatening comments aboard a Continental Commuter Flight and punched an off duty crewmember before other passengers subdued him. (See item [15](#))
- The New York Times reports the U.S. Department of Agriculture has announced that the third U.S. case of mad cow disease has been confirmed on a farm in Alabama. (See item [18](#))

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

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Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. ***March 14, Reuters*** — **Oil rises two percent on gasoline worries.** Oil prices rose more than two percent on Tuesday, March 14, on worries that U.S. gasoline supplies may grow tight ahead of the coming driving season, and amid deeper supply disruptions in Nigeria. U.S. crude rose \$1.33 to \$63.10 a barrel, up \$3 since last week, while London Brent rose \$1.77 to \$63.97 a barrel. U.S. gasoline futures shot up 12.27 cents, or seven percent, to a five-month high of

\$1.866 a gallon. The U.S. oil industry is phasing out the gasoline additive MTBE, banned in several states for polluting water. The head of Valero, the largest refiner in the United States, said he expects the removal of MTBE to tighten stockpiles of gasoline this summer, potentially boosting prices. Adding to U.S. gasoline worries, Hovensa LLC said it shut a gasoline-making unit at its refinery in St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, a major source of gasoline to the U.S. East Coast. The shutdown adds to already-slow production from refiners undergoing seasonal maintenance. In Nigeria, militant attacks have forced the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries member to shut in a total 556,000 barrels per day (bpd) of crude, an upward adjustment of nearly 100,000 bpd since violence flared last month, the country's top oil official Edmund Daukoru said.

Source: <http://news.moneycentral.msn.com/provider/providerarticle.asp?feed=OBR&Date=20060314&ID=5575839>

2. *March 13, Energy Central News* — **Spain, France call for European Union plan to guarantee energy supply.** The prime ministers of Spain and France — both fending off foreign takeover bids in the energy area — called Monday, March 13, on the European Union to come up with a policy to guarantee supplies in that sector. "Given the challenges of the post-petroleum world, we have to provide answers. Europe has to come up with a true strategy to guarantee energy security," French premier Dominique de Villepin said after talks with his Spanish counterpart, Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero. De Villepin said it was a priority for "Europe to create big energy groups capable of defending themselves" on the international stage. Zapatero said Spain was highly dependent on other countries for its energy, and simply had to protect its own interests by creating a national energy champion.

Source: <http://www.energycentral.com/centers/news/daily/article.cfm?aid=6446440>

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Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector

3. *March 13, New Mexico Channel* — **Huge grass fire in New Mexico caused by flare, officials say.** Investigators say a fire that burned 92,000 acres, a post office, six homes, and three barns in southeastern New Mexico was caused by an emergency flare that ignited fluid released from a gas line at the Saunders Natural Gas plant. The incident prompted the evacuation of about 200 people in McDonald and Prairie View.

Source: <http://www.thenewmexicochannel.com/news/7960187/detail.html?rss=alb&psp=news>

4. *March 13, Arizona Republic* — **Chemical explosion prompts evacuation, road closure in Arizona.** About 250 pounds of an ammonia-based chemical exploded into a large fireball and gas cloud Monday morning, March 13, blowing the roof off of a jet-propulsion plant building in Phoenix, AZ. No injuries were reported at the Universal Propulsion Company, which is owned by the Goodrich Corp. However, the explosion forced the evacuation of about 150 workers at the plant and nearly 20 residents from nearby homes. In addition, Happy Valley Road was closed between Seventh Street and Seventh Avenue, officials said.

Source: <http://www.azcentral.com/news/articles/0313plant-explosion13-ON.html>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

5. *March 13, Defense Industry Daily* — **Forecast International sees \$31.6 billion market in tanks from 2006–2016.** In its annual analysis, "The World Market for Tanks," the Forecast International Weapons Group projects that the international market will produce nearly 7,800 main battle tanks, worth in excess of \$31.6 billion, through 2015. Forecast International believes that China's Type 96/98, Pakistan's related Al-Khalid, and Russia's T-90 will account for nearly 45 percent of all new tanks rolling out worldwide, worth about 40 percent of the market, through 2015.

Forecast International Press Release:

<http://forecastinternational.com/press/release.cfm?article=89>

Source: <http://www.defenseindustrydaily.com/2006/03/fi-sees-316b-market-in-tanks-from-20062016/index.php>

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Banking and Finance Sector

6. *March 14, Daily Record (NJ)* — **Man accused of forging IDs, work visas.** A man from Dover, DE, was charged with selling fake Social Security and resident alien cards at an employment agency, where 80 percent of the workers at the time of the arrest had phony identification cards, police said Monday, March 13. Carlos Osorio was arrested Friday, March 10, and charged with four counts of sale of fraudulent government documents and three counts of identity theft, Captain Robert Kerwick said. Osorio is being held at the Morris County jail on \$100,000 bail.

Source: <http://www.dailyrecord.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060314/NEWS01/603140326/1005>

7. *March 14, Register (UK)* — **Unconventional ATM fraud in the Netherlands employs flammable gas.** Criminals in the Netherlands have begun drilling holes in conventional ATMs, filling them full of flammable gas and igniting them from a safe distance. While losses from more conventional fraud, such as skimming, has dropped over the last two years attacks, using gas or explosives are increasing in a number of countries across Europe.

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2006/03/14/exploding_atm_attack/

8. *March 13, Associated Press* — **IRS warns taxpayers to beware ID theft scams.** The Internal Revenue Service (IRS), noting an escalation in identity theft scams, is raising alarms about e-mails designed to dupe taxpayers into revealing personal financial information. IRS and Department of Treasury officials have noticed an increase this winter in the frequency and sophistication of phishing schemes that use the tax agency's logo to lure victims. The Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration, which investigates groups or individuals impersonating the IRS, found 12 separate Websites hosting such "phishing" schemes operating in 11 different countries. The inspector general has gotten more than 400 complaints since the beginning of the year. The IRS has been made aware of about 1,500 cases since November.

Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/11812356/>

9. *March 13, CNET News* — **Debit card crime ring arrested.** Law enforcement officials in New Jersey have arrested 14 people in connection with a crime spree that has forced banks across the nation to replace hundreds of thousands of debit cards. The suspects, all U.S. citizens, are accused of using stolen credit and debit card information to produce counterfeit cards that were used to make fraudulent purchases and withdrawals from card-holder accounts, Hudson County Prosecutor Edward DeFazio said. Most of the arrests were made during the past two weeks. Some of the stolen credit card information came from the office-supply chain OfficeMax as well as North Carolina's State Employees' Credit Union and other businesses. Source: http://news.com.com/Prosecutor+Debit+card+crime+ring+busted/2100-1029_3-6049290.html?tag=cd.top
10. *March 13, Fine Extra Research (UK)* — **Financial services is top target for cyber crooks.** Financial services firms are to remain the top targets for cyber attacks in 2006, according to research from Counterpane and MessageLabs, which warns that hackers are starting to deploy more sophisticated tactics to bypass stronger authentication schemes. The study, which analyzed key cyber attacks across 15 industry sectors, found that nearly 30 percent of total targeted scam attacks worldwide in 2005 were directed at the financial services sector. Source: <http://www.finextra.com/fullstory.asp?id=15039>
11. *March 12, Netcraft* — **Chinese Bank's server used in phishing attacks on U.S. banks.** A Web server belonging to a state-operated Chinese bank is hosting phishing sites targeting U.S. banks and financial institutions. Phishing e-mails sent on Saturday, March 11, targeting customers of Chase Bank and eBay were directed to sites hosted on IP addresses assigned to the China Construction Bank Shanghai Branch. The phishing pages are located in hidden directories with the server's main page displaying a configuration error. The URL in the phishing email uses an IP address rather than a domain, typically a strong indicator of a phishing site. Source: http://news.netcraft.com/archives/2006/03/12/chinese_banks_server_used_in_phishing_attacks_on_us_banks.html

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Transportation and Border Security Sector

12. *March 14, USA TODAY* — **Delta pilots' pension plan in danger.** The pension plan covering thousands of Delta Air Lines pilots is almost certain to fail, officials representing Delta and its pilots' union said Monday, March 13. Failure of that plan would follow pension plan terminations at both US Airways and United Airlines during their recent bankruptcy reorganizations. Delta, the country's third-biggest airline, is currently in Chapter 11 and is weighing the future of its pension plans. The plans covering all categories of Delta workers are under funded by nearly \$11 billion. Termination of all the plans would represent the largest corporate pension plan default in U.S. history. Delta CEO Jerry Grinstein said Monday that there's a "good chance" pension relief proposals moving through Congress would allow Delta to save its non-pilot pension plans, but not the more generous pilots plan. The federal agency that insures private pension plans has allowed Delta to temporarily halt the lump payments because of a liquidity crunch, but that restriction might be lifted in October, Delta says. If lump sum payments were to resume, the airline says, it would face a \$1 billion pension plan contribution

next year that it cannot afford.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/travel/news/2006-03-13-delta_x.htm

13. *March 14, Associated Press* — **Northwest to charge \$15 extra for prime coach seats.** For an extra \$15, Northwest Airlines will sell coach passengers a few more inches of legroom. Starting Tuesday, March 14, Northwest will ask passengers on most domestic flights if they're interested in paying extra for certain prime seats in coach – exit row seats or aisle seats near the front of the cabin. The "Coach Choice" program will involve about five percent of seats on domestic flights. Northwest's exit row seats can have 10 to 13 inches of extra leg room. Many air travelers prefer the convenience and extra elbow room of aisle seats to center and window seats. Jim Cron, vice president for passenger marketing and sales, said Northwest is trying to give more flexibility to passengers who book late. They often are the travelers who pay full fare, but they often find the only seats left are middle seats in the back of the plane because leisure travelers who booked early reserved the best seats. Eagan-based Northwest is the nation's fourth-largest airline and Michigan's leading passenger air carrier with a hub at Detroit Metropolitan Airport. It has been operating under Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection since September. United Airlines and Virgin Atlantic Airways already are charging a premium for certain desirable coach seats.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2006-03-14-nwa-premium_x.htm

14. *March 14, Baltimore Sun* — **Runaway barge hits Maryland bridge.** After being shut down for more than two hours, the Severn River bridge outside Annapolis, MD, was reopened when inspectors determined that an unmanned barge that had crashed into it had not caused structural damage. The bridge, a major artery between Maryland and its Eastern Shore, was reopened at 12:50 p.m. EST, officials said. After receiving a report that a 160-foot-long barge was adrift in the river and headed toward U.S. Route 50, the Coast Guard notified Maryland State Police, who decided to halt traffic on all lanes of the bridge. Seven minutes later, the barge, owned by a company based in Stevensville, MD, hit one of the bridge's supports, knocking out pieces of its concrete. Adding to the congestion, traffic was also twice halted this morning on the nearby Naval Academy bridge — a major alternate route. It was closed for about 30 minutes when the call first came in because it was unclear where the barge might strike. It was closed again around noon for about 20 minutes when the barge came free again and the fear of damage to the second bridge returned.

Source: <http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/local/annearundel/bal-bridge0314.0.7779454.story?coll=bal-home-headlines>

15. *March 13, Associated Press* — **FBI: Flight diverted over unruly passenger.** A man made threats aboard a commuter airplane and punched an off duty crewmember Friday before other passengers subdued him, authorities said. Joseph Pervis Hebert, 48, of Spring Creek, NV, was arrested at Ohio's Port Columbus International Airport, where he was being detained. Hebert was one of six passengers on Continental Commuter Flight 8820 that left Cleveland for Cincinnati on Saturday, March 11, said special agent Michael Brooks of the FBI's Cincinnati office. Hebert made threatening comments following takeoff and approached the open cockpit, authorities said. He then punched a male off-duty crewmember who challenged him, the FBI said.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/travel/news/2006-03-11-plane-threat_x.htm

16. *March 13, Indianapolis Star (IN)* — ATA's code-share deal with Southwest aids both. ATA Airlines' new alliance with Southwest Airlines produced an estimated \$30 million last year for the Indianapolis carrier, said ATA chief John Denison. In a complex arrangement, ATA shed half its fleet and gave up the busy Chicago Midway hub in return for Southwest code-share rights and \$87 million in loans and loan guarantees. Southwest since has forgiven \$20 million of the debt. Code-sharing means passengers on select routes can get off Southwest's airplanes and board ATA aircraft going to cities not serviced by the Dallas airline. Their baggage is switched automatically to the other airplanes. Also, this steers travelers to ATA, whose financial problems last year essentially forced the sale of its Midway hub to Southwest. Having shed the Chicago hub, ATA has taken a decidedly West Coast tilt, and handed Southwest a ready connection to tourist centers in Mexico, the Caribbean, and especially Hawaii. Founded as a global charter service, ATA routinely equips many of its airliners for long ocean flights, an expensive undertaking requiring federal certificates, while Southwest airliners are rated only for overland flights.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2006-03-13-swa-ata_x.htm

17. *March 13, Reuters* — Alaska Air to retire MD-80s. Alaska Air plans to accelerate deliveries of Boeing 737 aircraft after deciding to retire all of its Boeing MD-80 planes by December 2008, the company said on Monday, March 13. The move to a single fleet type, which is being taken to lower maintenance and fuel costs, will result in after-tax charges of between USD\$160 million and USD\$190 million for retiring 15 MD-80 planes and returning 11 that are leased, Alaska said in a regulatory filing. The move also expands the fleet size and available seats of Seattle-based Alaska, the ninth-largest U.S. airline. The move will boost Alaska's fleet to 114 planes by December 2008 from 110 at the beginning of this year and increase capacity by 18 percent by the end of 2008. Alaska said in October that it would inspect its MD-80 aircraft to make sure that it was properly maintaining a tail mechanism that had been implicated in a January 2000 crash. That followed a Federal Aviation Administration investigation of complaints by a mechanic about possible maintenance shortfalls.

Source: <http://news.airwise.com/story/view/1142286865.html>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report.

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Agriculture Sector

18. *March 14, New York Times* — Third U.S. case of mad cow disease found in Alabama. The third U.S. case of mad cow disease has been confirmed on a farm in Alabama, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has announced. The animal was killed last week by a private veterinarian after it collapsed, and it was buried on the farm, which the USDA did not identify. The cow's teeth suggested that the animal was more than 10 years old — meaning it was born before the 1997 ban on feed that contained parts from cattle and other ruminant animals. The USDA will now try to trace where the cow was born and find other members of

its birth herd, which presumably ate the same feed. Two infected cows have previously been found. The first was a dairy cow in Washington State that had been born in Canada. It was discovered in December 2003. The second discovery was in June 2005, in a cow born and raised in Texas.

USDA statement: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom/content/2006/03/bsestatement3-13-06_vs.shtml

Source: <http://www.iht.com/articles/2006/03/14/news/beef.php>

19. *March 13, Associated Press* — **Kansas wheat crop continues to deteriorate.** Kansas winter wheat deteriorated further this past week, with 35 percent of the crop now in poor to very poor condition amid a deepening drought, Kansas Agricultural Statistics Service said Monday, March 13. Crop conditions are worse than just a week ago, when 27 percent of the wheat was ranked in the poor to very poor category. Most of the state's farmland remained parched. Early reports estimate four percent of the state's wheat crop has been lost to winterkill.

Source: <http://www.kansascity.com/mld/kansascity/news/local/14090030.htm>

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Food Sector

20. *March 15, Asia Times* — **Beef imports on hold.** South Korea will delay opening the market to U.S. beef following the confirmation of a mad cow case, a government official said Tuesday, March 14. The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry official said Seoul will not move to halt all import measures because the animal hit by the disease is more than 10 years old. On Monday, March 13, the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced that a cow on a farm in Alabama had tested positive for mad cow disease, the third such case in the U.S. In an agreement signed earlier in the year, Seoul can automatically impose a ban if a cow born after April 1998 comes down with the bovine spongiform encephalopathy, or mad cow disease.

Source: <http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Korea/HC15Dg02.html>

21. *March 13, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* — **U.S. Food and Drug Administration statement on positive mad cow test result.** Following confirmation Monday, March 13, by the U.S. Department of Agriculture of a cow found positive for mad cow disease, or bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), the U.S. Food and drug Administration (FDA) is working with federal and state authorities to investigate the origin of the animal feed consumed by this cow. The FDA's 1997 animal feed ban rule has proven effective at keeping BSE out of the human food and animal feed supply. Recently, the FDA added safeguards prohibiting the use of certain cattle material in human food and cosmetics. Last year, the FDA also proposed to prohibit the use of certain cattle material in all animal feed.

Source: <http://www.fda.gov/bbs/topics/NEWS/2006/NEW01333.html>

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Water Sector

22.

March 14, Associated Press — **GE acquires water company.** General Electric Co. will acquire Zenon Environmental Inc., a water treatment company in Canada, for \$656 million, company officials announced Tuesday, March 14. The acquisition will help GE's Water & Process Technologies unit expand its growing water business. Zenon makes advanced membranes for water purification, wastewater treatment and water reuse to municipalities and industries worldwide. GE Water & Process Technologies provides industrial, agricultural and potable water with technologies that include desalination, water reuse and wastewater management.

Source: <http://www.newsday.com/news/local/wire/connecticut/ny-bc-ct-ge-acquisition0314mar14.0.1965059.story?coll=ny-region-apco-nnecticut>

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Public Health Sector

23. *March 14, Associated Press* — Azerbaijan reports three dead from bird flu. The H5N1 strain of bird flu has killed or forced the slaughter of tens of millions of chickens and ducks across Asia since 2003, and recently spread to Europe, Africa and the Middle East. It also has killed at least 98 people in Asia and Turkey since 2003, according to the World Health Organization (WHO). That human toll does not include the three deaths reported in the Caucasus nation of Azerbaijan, although officials in the former Soviet republic said Monday, March 13, that tests conducted by WHO officials had confirmed H5N1 was the cause. All three were from a district on the country's Caspian Sea coast.

Source: <http://abcnews.go.com/Health/wireStory?id=1722052>

24. *March 14, Agence France-Presse* — Hungarian Prime Minister announces H5N1 bird flu vaccine for humans. Hungarian researchers have developed a vaccine for humans against the current form of the H5N1 bird flu virus, Prime Minister Ferenc Gyurcsany said. The vaccine has been approved by the country's pharmaceutical authorities, he told a press conference. Showing journalists a vial of the vaccine, Gyurcsany said it "contains six micrograms (of an active agent), enough for one person to be immunized against the H5N1 virus." The vaccine would be used to protect people working in close proximity to diseased birds. It is not intended, though, as a shield against a mutated form of the H5N1.

Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20060314/hl_afp/healthfluhungary_vaccine_060314151232

25. *March 14, Reuters* — U.S. bird flu budget focuses on future vaccines. More than half the U.S. bird flu budget will go to developing new vaccines, Health and Human Services Secretary Michael Leavitt said on Monday, March 13. Another big part of the \$3.3 billion allocated by Congress for this year would go to stockpiling drugs that fight influenza, Leavitt told reporters. "The bulk of our money — \$1.781 billion of the money — is directed at a vaccine," Leavitt said. He reported \$731 million would be spent on drugs such as Tamiflu and Relenza. Leavitt said he hoped the federal government would have 26 million courses of the antivirals by the end of the year. In addition to stockpiling antivirals, \$162 million will be used to procure essential medical supplies for a pandemic. Planned purchases this year include 6,000 ventilators, 50 million surgical masks, 50 million N95 respirators (face masks), and face shields, gloves and gowns.

Report on Pandemic Planning: <http://www.pandemicflu.gov/plan/pdf/panflu20060313.pdf>
Source: http://today.reuters.com/news/newsArticle.aspx?type=healthNews&storyID=2006-03-14T140159Z_01_N13304756_RTRUKOC_0_US-BIRD_FLU-USA.xml&archived=False

26. *March 14, Agence France-Presse* — **World Health Organization warns of possible Ebola outbreak in Congo.** Two people have died in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) after displaying symptoms similar to those caused by the Ebola virus, the World Health Organization (WHO) said. A rickshaw driver and one of his passengers died in Bumba, about 300 miles north of Mbandaka, after suffering haemorrhagic fever, the WHO announced Tuesday, March 14. The WHO's head of epidemiology in the DRC, Florent Ekwanza, said a third person, the wife of the driver, had "presented with the same symptoms as her husband and is in the care of Bumba general hospital where WHO teams were dispatched." Swabs taken from the bodies of the two dead victims "will be sent to South Africa to be tested for Ebola," he added. Two previous Ebola outbreaks in the former Zaire, one in 1976 and one in 1995, killed around 525 people, according to health ministry figures.

Ebola information: <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvrd/spb/mnpages/dispages/ebola.htm>
Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20060314/hl_afp/drcongohealthunebola_060314140754;_ylt=Ap8aIvhcQL8QBmnt33yQ1qKJOrgF;_ylu=X3oDMTA5aHJvMDdwBHNIYwN5bmNhdA--

27. *March 13, Crain's* — **Illinois to conduct simulated bird flu crisis exercises.** Illinois health officials will conduct the first of three table-top crisis simulation exercises this week to test the state's preparations for a severe bird flu pandemic. In the first exercise, officials from the Illinois Department of Public Health will meet Tuesday, March 14, in Springfield to discuss the decision-making required in a hypothetical scenario in which 35 percent of the Illinois population, or more than 4.4 million people, contract the avian H5N1 influenza within the first 12 weeks after it is first detected in the state. The second exercise, slated for April, will include staff from other agencies, focusing on allocation of scarce drugs and other resources in the event of a bird flu emergency. The third exercise in May will bring in top government officials to review the state's plans and discuss remaining issues.

Source: <http://www.chicagobusiness.com/cgi-bin/news.pl?id=19823>

28. *March 13, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services* — **New tool to help offices and clinics prepare for an influenza pandemic issued.** Medical offices and ambulatory clinics are a first resource for many seasonal flu sufferers. The same would be true if a pandemic influenza were to strike. Recognizing the important role these organizations would play in caring for the sick, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has developed a checklist to help them assess readiness and plan for a response. While the checklist was designed with a pandemic influenza in mind, it could be helpful in other types of emergencies.

<http://www.pandemicflu.gov/plan/pdf/medofficesclinics.pdf>

Source: <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2006pres/20060313.html>

29. *March 08, University of California-Irvine* — **Genetically engineered mosquitoes show resistance to dengue fever virus.** Researchers have successfully created a genetically engineered mosquito that shows a high level of resistance against the most prevalent type of dengue fever virus, providing a powerful weapon against a disease that infects 50 million

people each year. Anthony James, a University of California–Irvine vector biologist, is one of a team of researchers who injected DNA into mosquito embryos, creating the first stable transgenic mosquito resistant to Type 2 dengue fever virus, the most prevalent strain of the disease. The mosquitoes that survived the procedure also remained fertile and were able to reproduce, a key factor for any future strategies that may involve replacing mosquito populations with their genetically modified counterparts. Dengue fever is endemic in more than 100 countries in Africa, the Americas, the Eastern Mediterranean, Southeast Asia, and the Western Pacific. The virus is transmitted to people by mosquitoes of the species *Aedes aegypti*. Dengue fever virus information: <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/dengue/index.htm>
Source: http://today.uci.edu/news/release_detail.asp?key=1448

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Government Sector

Nothing to report.

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Emergency Services Sector

30. *March 13, Associated Press* — **Terror review applauds rescue crews, cites gaps.** Fire and rescue crews responded well to a simulated chemical attack in eastern Connecticut last year but the drill revealed gaps in the way top officials share information and delegate authority, an independent review found. A review by the University of Connecticut's Homeland Security Education Center found that the state's first responders reacted quickly and effectively. Roy Pietro, who oversaw the review, cited confusion over the authority and responsibility of different agencies and noted that New London officials complained they were not receiving information promptly.

For details on the key findings: http://www.ct.gov/demhs/lib/demhs/publicinfo/cttopoff3_pub_after_action_report_summ.pdf#44742

Source: <http://www.newsday.com/news/local/wire/connecticut/ny-bc-ct--terrordrill0313mar13.0.946433.story?coll=ny-region-apconnecticut>

31. *March 13, Times Leader Online (KY)* — **Kentucky conducts regional disaster exercise to test synchronized response efforts.** Emergency responders in the Pennyryle, KY, region's nine counties joined federal and state officials in a disaster simulation involving a 6.2-magnitude earthquake and a 6-to-10-inch snowfall Tuesday, March 14, to ensure response efforts are synchronized should a real disaster occur. The exercise gave each county's officials an opportunity to work with emergency managers and responders from other counties, to help ensure success if a disaster required inter-county cooperation.

Source: http://www.timesleader.net/articles/stories/public/200603/13/04aF_news.html

32. *March 13, Courant (CT)* — **Connecticut first responders simulate chemical gas release and bomb threat.** About 180 emergency personnel participated in a drill at the Westfarms, CT, mall Sunday, March 12, simulating a chemical gas release and bomb threat. Mall security received a call at 7:30 a.m. EST that someone was having trouble breathing in a men's

restroom. Arriving at the bathroom, guards saw a vaporizer on the counter and a note taped to a mirror that said, "You have found the breath of death, now look for 2, for it is for you." The "2" referred to a second threat, which responders determined was a bomb. The mall falls under the jurisdiction of both Farmington and West Hartford, so fire departments from both towns were the first responders in the drill. The drill tested whether the mall's security personnel, along with local and state agencies, could do what they're trained to do: Recognize the situation, use their personal protective equipment, call additional personnel to help with the problem and effectively work with other agencies.

Source: <http://www.courant.com/news/local/hc-ctdrill0313.artmar13.0.4599125.story?coll=hc-headlines-local>

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Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector

33. *March 14, Secunia* — **Mac OS X security update fixes multiple vulnerabilities.** Apple has issued a security update for Mac OS X, which fixes multiple vulnerabilities. Analysis: Under certain circumstances, it is possible for JavaScript to bypass the same origin policy via specially crafted archives. A boundary error in mail can be exploited to cause a buffer overflow via a specially crafted e-mail. This allows execution of arbitrary code on a user's system if a specially crafted attachment is double clicked. An error in Safari/LaunchServices can cause a malicious application to appear as a safe file type. This may cause a malicious file to be executed automatically when visiting a malicious Website.

Solution: Apply Security Update 2006-002.

Mac OS X 10.4.5 (PPC): <http://www.apple.com/support/dow...yupdate2006002macosx1045ppc.html>

Mac OS X 10.4.5 Client (Intel):

<http://www.apple.com/support/dow...006002macosx1045clientintel.html>

Mac OS X 10.3.9 Client: <http://www.apple.com/support/dow...rityupdate20060021039client.html>

Mac OS X 10.3.9 Server: <http://www.apple.com/support/dow...rityupdate20060021039server.html>

Source: <http://secunia.com/advisories/19129/>

34. *March 14, Security Focus* — **Linux kernel XFS file system local information disclosure vulnerability.** The Linux kernel's XFS file system is susceptible to a local information disclosure vulnerability. Analysis: The flaw in the file system that may result in previously written data being returned to local users. A flaw was found in the module reference counting for loadable protocol modules of netfilter. By performing particular socket operations, a local attacker could exploit this to crash the kernel. A complete list of vulnerable products is given on the source advisory.

Solution: The vendor has released version 2.6.15.5 to address this, and other issues. For more details: <http://www.securityfocus.com/bid/16921/solution>

Source: <http://www.securityfocus.com/bid/16921/references>

35. *March 14, Security Focus* — **Linux kernel ATM module inconsistent reference counts denial-of-service vulnerability.** The Linux kernel is prone to a local denial-of-service

vulnerability. Analysis: This vulnerability affects the ATM module and allows local users to panic the kernel by creating inconsistent reference counts, denying further service to legitimate users. A complete list of vulnerable products is listed in the source advisory.

Solution: Linux kernel version 2.6.14 was released to address this issue.

Source: <http://www.securityfocus.com/bid/17078/references>

36. *March 13, eWeek* — **Cryzip Trojan encrypts files, demands ransom.** Virus hunters have discovered a new Trojan that encrypts files on an infected computer and then demands \$300 in ransom for a decryption password. The Trojan, identified as Cryzip, uses a commercial zip library to store the victim's documents inside a password-protected zip file and leaves step-by-step instructions on how to pay the ransom to retrieve the files. It is not yet clear how the Trojan is being distributed, but security researchers say it was part of a small e-mail spam run that successfully evaded anti-virus scanners by staying below the radar. While this type of attack, known as "ransomware," is not entirely new, it points to an increasing level of sophistication among online thieves who use social engineering tactics to trick victims into installing malware, said Shane Coursen, senior technical consultant at Moscow-based anti-virus vendor Kaspersky Lab.

Source: <http://www.eweek.com/article2/0%2C1895%2C1937408%2C00.asp>

37. *March 13, FrSIRT* — **ZoneAlarm TrueVector Service local privilege escalation vulnerability.** A vulnerability has been identified in ZoneAlarm, which could be exploited by malicious users to obtain elevated privileges. Analysis: The error in the TrueVector service ("VSMON.exe") that loads certain Dynamically Linked Libraries (DLL) in an insecure manner, which could be exploited by local attackers to execute arbitrary commands with SYSTEM privileges by placing a malicious DLL in a specific directory. Affected product: ZoneAlarm versions 6.x. Solution: The FrSIRT is not aware of any official supplied patch for this issue.

Source: <http://www.frsirt.com/english/advisories/2006/0947>

Internet Alert Dashboard

DHS/US-CERT Watch Synopsis

Over the preceding 24 hours, there has been no cyber activity which constitutes an unusual and significant threat to Homeland Security, National Security, the Internet, or the Nation's critical infrastructures.

US-CERT Operations Center Synopsis: US-CERT reports publicly that Apple Security Update 2006-001 resolves a number of vulnerabilities affecting Mac OS X, OS X Server, Safari web browser, and other products. Please review the following vulnerability Notes:

VU#999708 – Apple Safari automatically executes arbitrary shell commands or code Apple Safari fails to properly determine file safety, allowing a remote unauthenticated attacker to execute arbitrary commands or code.

<http://www.kb.cert.org/vuls/id/999708>

VU#351217 – Apple Safari WebKit component vulnerable to buffer overflow Apple Safari WebKit component is vulnerable to buffer overflow. This vulnerability may allow are remote attacker to execute arbitrary code or cause a denial of service condition. <http://www.kb.cert.org/vuls/id/351217>

VU#176732 – Apple Safari vulnerable to buffer overflow Apple Safari is vulnerable to a stack based buffer overflow. This vulnerability may allow a remote attacker to execute arbitrary code on a vulnerable system. <http://www.kb.cert.org/vuls/id/176732>

Apple has provided Security Update 2006–001 that addresses additional vulnerabilities not described above.

<http://docs.info.apple.com/article.html?artnum=303382>

Current Port Attacks

Top 10 Target Ports	1026 (win-rpc), 25 (smtp), 445 (microsoft-ds), 6881 (bittorrent), 80 (www), 139 (netbios-ssn), 12106 (----), 113 (auth), 6346 (gnutella-svc), 32774 (sometimes-rpc11) Source: http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html ; Internet Storm Center
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To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US–CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: www.us-cert.gov.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons Sector

38. *March 14, Decatur Daily (AL)* — Decatur wants school cameras. Decatur, AL, police and city administrators could soon use any computer connected to the Internet for real-time video surveillance of two high schools and three middle schools, officials said. School Resource Officer Sgt. Greg Cain secured a federal grant to pay for half of the \$358,500 system, which is expected to greatly increase security, said Phil Hastings, supervisor of school safety. "It's top-of-the-line technology," Hastings said. "Once approved by the City Council, work will start in a couple of weeks. We anticipate it will take two to three months for the cameras to be installed, and certainly by the time school starts in August they would be operational." Hastings said the cameras could reduce school vandalism by providing video evidence of who enters Decatur and Austin high schools, and Cedar Ridge, Brookhaven, and Oak Park middle schools. Decatur police and school administrators combed campuses to find the best locations for cameras that offer the most coverage of student congregation areas, such as interior hallways, sidewalks and parking lots.

Source: <http://www.decaturdaily.com/decaturdaily/news/060312/watch.s.html>

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General Sector

Nothing to report.

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To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at nicc@dhs.gov or (202) 282–9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US–CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us-cert.gov.

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